

REMARKS:

The claims in the application remain 1-20.

Favorable consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11 have been allowed in paragraph 6 of the Office Action.

Claims 12 and 14 have been amended to eliminate the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, raised in paragraph 4 of the Office Action.

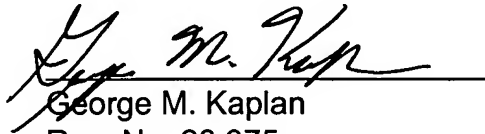
Accordingly, Claims 12-14 (Claim 13 depends from Claim 12) should now be allowable in accordance with paragraph 7 of the Office Action. Additionally, it is respectfully pointed out Claims 15-20 were added by the Preliminary Amendment filed with the application papers on September 13, 2004 and should also be in condition for allowance as depending from allowed claims.

In other matters, a replacement set of drawings on which the spelling of FIGURE has been corrected, is enclosed in accordance with paragraph 2 of the Office Action. A copy is enclosed of Form PCT/IB/304 documenting receipt of the certified copy of the priority German application by the International Bureau of WIPO in the priority PCT application. Accordingly, the certified copy of the priority document has been properly filed with the appropriate patent authority (as requested in paragraph 1 of the Office Action), so acknowledgment of this proper filing should appear on the next official communication from the Patent and Trademark Office.

Accordingly, in view of the forgoing amendment, accompanying remarks and explicit statements in the Office Action, it is respectfully submitted all claims pending herein are in condition for allowance. Please contact the undersigned attorney should there be any questions. A petition for an automatic two month extension of time for response under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) is enclosed in triplicate, together with the requisite petition fee.

Early favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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